

## 3-319th AFAR Gun Devils

I would like to wish all of our Gun Devil's and their families a Happy New Year. As the well-deserved block leave comes to a close, CSM Love and I look forward to meeting the year's new challenges head on.

2011 brings many new challenges to the Battalion. First and foremost January marks the beginning of our training phase in preparation to assume the Global Response Force. Our training will focus on each unit's core competencies beginning with section certification then moving into Live Fires by the early spring. Over the coming weeks the Battalion will grow stronger and more confident in executing those core competencies.

Additionally, the New Year brings many new faces to the Battalion. We look forward to welcoming them to the Gun Devil team. Michelle and I can't wait to meet them in the coming months. As the snow melts and the grass begins to green, the Battalion will sponsor multiple opportunities to share each other's company and camaraderie. I hope that all of you will make the time to join us.

2011 looks to be a promising year. Accomplishing our many challenging tasks will require significant effort from each member of the Battalion. I am confident the entire Gun Devil team is more than ready. Thank you and your families for all that you do for this organization, the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division, and our Nation.

Strike Hold, Gun Devils!!





# Family Services

Greetings and a happy new year to you all!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and a relaxing time spent with family that allowed us all to experience a profound respite from the normal toils of everyday life. But now that the holidays are over, it is my hope that we can still find ways to enjoy our time even in the midst of our toils.

On the sixth of January, by the Christian liturgical calendar, we entered the season of Epiphany. For those of you who are not religious or not Christian, please bear with me. Epiphany means an unveiling, or a revelation, and as such Christians celebrate in this time the unveiling of the Christ, or in other words the witnessed revelation of Jesus the Christ to wise men from the east, John the baptizer, the guests at the wedding feast in Cana, etc. Epiphany is a time to reflect on the wondrous revelation of Jesus Christ who for Christians was really "God with us.

But what application could this have for all of us whether Christian or not?

Well, I believe that as we enter this season I celebrate as Epiphany we can all recall moments of clarity and moments of profound insight that have shaped our lives and will hopefully continue to shape us. We all have a history that is filled with pains, joys, heartbreak, desire, success, failure, etc. Sometimes, our lives can seem overwhelmingly filled with darkness and for those who may be in a very dark place even now, there is still light. Besides, if there were no light we would never comprehend darkness. Ultimately, I hope this reminds us to take stock of our lives and remember those moments that shine through and give us direction and hope for the future.

Blessings for a new and joyous year!

CH Bailey+



## FRSA

2011 has kicked off with a vengeance. Between weather and training schedules, nothing seems to be operating "normally" (not that there is such a thing as "normal.")

As the Battalion continues to transition, I encourage everyone to consider how they can support the Gun Devil Family. There are many opportunities for family members to provide support. From FRG Leader to general FRG volunteer. Some positions involve more personal time, while others involve minimal time commitment.

Some may feel that because of past experiences (maybe in this unit or from another) that they do not want to get involved. What better way to ensure change, that your voice is heard, or generation of new ideas than to get involved?!?! Most have a basic need of knowing information, what is going on with their soldier, and general contact information to assist in getting from point "A" to point "B." That is what the FRG is for. At its very core it is a conduit of information from the unit to the family and from the family to the unit. So please consider getting involved.

Melissa  
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(910) 908-0074

# HHB

Dear Paratroopers and Families of HHB 3-319TH AFAR,

Welcome back from a well-deserved Christmas block leave. As always, I offer you my most sincere appreciation for all the hard work you have accomplished since we have returned from deployment. The Battery has completed a reset of its personnel, equipment, and systems and is now poised to begin training in support of the Battalion's mission.

There have been a number of changes since our redeployment. Unfortunately, we have had to say goodbye to a number of dedicated members of the HHB team over the past few months as they have moved on to other endeavors in their lives and careers. Their contributions and personalities will be missed in their absence. We have and will continue to welcome new members to our family as troopers enter our ranks.

New senior leaders have taken over key positions within the Battery and will continue to lead and mentor our troopers to the same standard that Hardcore is known for. MSG Barbary has finished his time as the 1SG after taking the Battery through the entire deployment. MSG Barbary's hard work, mentorship and unwavering dedication to the Battery will be sorely missed, but not forgotten. He will be promoted to Sergeant Major later this year. 1SG Rucker has assumed responsibility as the Battery's 1SG. 1SG Rucker comes to us from the brigade fires cell and he brings with him over 20 years of experience. Jennifer Rucker, 1SG Rucker's wife, has volunteered to be the Battery's new FRG leader. Crystal Prater, the prior FRG leader, did an outstanding job and was vital in providing a smooth redeployment for our soldiers and reintegration with their families.

As the Battery heads into the winter months, the pace of training is going to increase. With multiple sections conducting certification, the length and intensity of our training will increase. Overnight field operations will also begin. The first major event will occur in mid February with the first major joint force entry exercise (JFEX). As always, I ask for your family's patience with your Troopers as they prepare to assume GRF. The FRG is here to assist you in the event your Soldier is in the field.

*Thank you for your dedication and support,  
CAPTAIN DAVID SINNK  
HARDCORE 6*



## WELCOME

CPT Kennedy

1LT Pope

1LT Noland

2LT Scott

WO1 Mathews

SSG Sommer

SFC Phillips

## Farewell

CPT Fort

CPT Langdeaux

CPT Kim

SPC Craig

PFC Powell

1LT Ryan

SPC Mallory

CPT Ivins

SSG Sistrunk

SGT Saucedo

## Promotions

1LT Noland

SSG Sommer

SGT West

## Births

PFC White - Liam Gage 22NOV





# ALPHA

1LT Mark T. Gordon  
A/3-319 Fire Direction Officer

Since redeploying in July 2010, A Battery hit the ground running and the pace is not going to slow down anytime soon. We will be working diligently towards returning to proficiency at our key artillery tasks. Some of the more significant events in the last few months were the Battery Change of Command, the Saint Barbara's Day Ball, the heavy drop, and A Battery's own howitzer run.

Changes of Command are commonplace in the Army, but they are still emotionally powerful events for outgoing and incoming Commanders at all levels. The outgoing Commander relinquishes responsibility of his Battery, the group of men that lived and fought with. The incoming Commander is accepting responsibility of that same group of men and cannot be anything but optimistic about the direction he will lead them. This is symbolized through the ceremonial transferring of the Guidon.

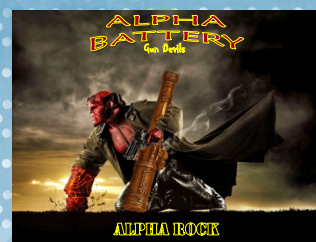
Saint Barbara is the patron saint of the Field Artillery. The FA community hosts an annual celebration in her honor, which is normally a formal dining-out or military ball. This year's Ball was a blast with several hundred attendees. There are three characteristics of the Saint Barbara's Ball which make it unique. They are the presentation of the Order of Saint Barbara, the recognizing of Molly Pitcher awardees, and the infamous artillery punch. The Order of Saint Barbara Medallion is awarded to artillerymen who have demonstrated the highest standards of moral character and integrity, and have displayed outstanding professional competence. The Molly Pitcher award goes to the spouses of artillerymen who have voluntarily contributed to the artillery community. "Artillery punch" is a wonderful blend of spirits that "neo-gunners", or new gunners (artillerymen attending their first Saint Barbara's Day Ball) must partake in as a rite of passage of sorts.

3-319<sup>th</sup> conducted a Battalion level leader's professional development on rigging, de-rigging, and putting a 105mm howitzer into action on the drop zone. This is a core artillery task that many have lost proficiency in due to the non standard missions being assigned to artillery units in the Global War on Terror. It was brand new to some, simply a refresher to a select few, and an excellent learning experience for all. A heavy drop was simulated by rigging a 105mm howitzer plus ammo and prepositioning it on Sicily drop zone. Cannon

crewman, fire direction center personnel and combat support elements alike jumped into Sicily and beat feet to the prepositioned gun. To make things more exciting our Battalion Commander,

LTC Pierce, offered a four day pass to the first soldier to make it to the howitzer. Once all paratroopers had assembled on the gun, SFC Arroyo and MAJ Davis conducted a thorough class on assembling and putting the howitzer into action. In the near future this and other training will culminate in a Joint Forcible Entry Exercise. During this exercise we will drop howitzers from high performance aircraft and fire live rounds from the drop zone in support of our Infantry brothers.

Physical training is a daily occurrence that the Army takes very seriously-but that doesn't mean



that we can't have fun doing it. Just before going on block leave for Christmas break, A Battery conducted a "Howitzer Run" for Battery physical training. This involved the entire Battery helping to push/pull a 4,000 lb M119A2 105mm howitzer for over 2 miles. A soldier walking past us during this event was heard saying, "That's awesome, I haven't seen anybody do that in 10 years!" Although this was physically strenuous, it was good for esprit de core, the soldiers had a great time, and it brought us all a little closer together, which is important because the soldiers of Alpha Rock and their families are all one big family.

The past several months have been both busy and rewarding. As A Battery enters into the New Year we look forward to new and exciting challenges. In the coming months we will execute Gunner's and Fire Direction Center section certifications, and numerous live fire exercises. We will say goodbye to dear friends that are moving on in their careers, and welcome new ones to our family.





# Bravo

The first quarter of the fiscal year has been a remarkable one for the Bravo Bandits of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion 319<sup>th</sup> Airborne Field Artillery Regiment. Many milestones have been reached by the hard-charging Paratroopers of Bravo Battery. From making the front page of the *Paraglide*, to helping provide Christmas presents for the local Fayetteville youth in need, the Bandits have been able to accomplish numerous tasks since we came home from Al Anbar, Iraq.

Early in the quarter the Bandits conducted a Battery land navigation course. All of the Paratroopers were given land navigation points to find in a heavily forested area of Fort Bragg. The Bandits completed the course with a 100 percent success rate. As well, the Bandits participated in individual weapons ranges. Troopers zeroed, and qualified with their personal weapons, as well as machine guns. Training has also included a twelve mile ruck march through the southern portion of Fort Bragg. This ruck march was special because throughout the course, sections stopped at various points and participated in team build exercises to include skill level one and two soldiering tasks which the troopers executed flawlessly.

As stated earlier, the Bandits have also made the front page of the *Paraglide* due to their actions during a training jump. The Bandits played a key role in the airborne operation by having two howitzers dropped from a US Air force C-17 and then jumping onto Sicily drop zone and conducting field artillery operations.

On December eleventh, Bandits participated in "Operation Toy Drop". The Toy drop was in its 13<sup>th</sup> year of helping out local children in need during Christmas time. Bandits aided in the donation process which ultimately yielded over 6000 toys. Several foreign countries were involved with this event.



Five members of the Bandit team were fortunate enough to receive slots to jump which allowed the soldiers to receive foreign jump wings.

There have been many individual achievements during this last quarter. SSG Garza, SSG Helie, and LTC Young have all successfully completed the jumpmaster course at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division Advanced Airborne School. The Bandits have also had three promotions within the NCO ranks. SSG Feasler, SSG Lipscomb, and SGT Crosson were pinned by the Battalion Commander of 3-319<sup>th</sup> AFAR, LTC Pierce.

During the upcoming weeks, the focus for the Bandits is going to be on section certifications and preparing for the forced entry exercise. All of the training is in preparation to assume the Global Response Force. The Bandit team is striving to become the best Artillery Battery in the division!

Thank You For The Support and See Us on Facebook.



# Golf

## December in Review

I would like to start off by wishing everyone a Happy Holiday, and I hope that everyone's holiday was a welcome break from our usual hustle and bustle. Over the past month we have had fun attending the Battalion Christmas Party, and the St. Barbara's Day Ball. If you were there, you knew how much of a blast it was, and if you didn't attend I would highly recommend getting dressed up and join the fun next time. The Company has undergone numerous changes over the past month. We have seen personnel come and go as well as various school accomplishments. We would like to bid farewell to CPT Gobar, who is now in A Co. 307<sup>th</sup>, to SSG Walter who is now sunning and surfing in Hawaii, and 1LT Barnes left to become the Gun Devil's S-4. Maintenance lost two great mechanics and leaders with SFC Cuffie leaving for Korea, and SFC Cruz leaving for Fort Carson. We would also like to welcome CPT Salinas, our new Company Commander, and 1LT Clay, our new Company Executive Officer. SGT Robinson has also joined the team as our operations clerk. Congratulations for SGT Pinkston and SPC Cambria completing the Warrior Leader's Course, with SPC Cambria making the Commandant's List. We currently have SGT Mumford and SGT Pate in the Senior Leader's Course and we wish them well as they advance their careers. Last but not least, we would like to congratulate SPC Owen and wish her well as she leaves us to take on her next biggest challenge in becoming a mother.

### Special points of interest:

- SPC Shubert re-enlisted for Fort Lewis
- Diaz Promotion from PFC to SPC
- Welcome to PFC Pickin's, and PVT Sharrard



## Weapons' Qualification

On the 2nd of December the company went to range 56 off of Chicken road and completed a weapons zero range and weapons qualification range. All personal in Golf Company successfully zeroed and qualified with their personal weapons, but more importantly gained invaluable experience in becoming proficient at firing. Over the course of the day, 38 personal fired 7812 rounds out of the 10,000 issued for the day. One qualification iteration requires 40 well placed shots. You can visualize the amount of rounds individuals were able to fire that day. Lastly, members of Golf Company were able to complete the Toy Drop Jump on 11 Dec., which awarded them foreign jump wings, and donated a toy to charity cause.



# Tax Filing & Tips

People short of cash are often tempted by the easy terms of payday loans, car title loans, or tax refund anticipation loans without realizing how expensive these quick loans really are. The U.S. Congress has enacted measures to help protect service members and their families from these money traps. Here's what you should know about these types of loans and your rights as a member of the military family.

Recognizing the harm that can result from a service member getting a high-cost, short-term, small loan, Congress passed the Military Lending Act in 2006. This limits the charges and interest rates lenders can charge military members and their families for payday loans, vehicle title loans, and tax refund anticipation loans. The Military Lending Act caps interest and fees on these loans to an annual percentage rate (APR) of 36 percent and prohibits the lender from securing the loan by holding a check, car title, or having access to a bank account.

Lenders should present you with a "declaration" to sign asserting that you are a service member or the spouse or dependent of a service member. Lenders who violate the law face criminal penalties and must return the interest that you paid on a loan.

Even though interest rates are capped for active-duty service members and their families, the costs of these loans are still high and can quickly land a borrower in debt.

Refund anticipation loans are advertised during tax-filing time as a way to get your income tax refund without having to wait the typical 10 to 20 days for the IRS to issue it directly. A tax preparer will file your tax return and loan you the amount of your anticipated refund. The loan becomes costly when you factor in fees and handling charges. An \$89 processing fee for a \$1,000 tax refund is like paying an APR of 250 percent on your loan.

*With free e-filing services available through Military One Source, the Internal Revenue Service Website ([www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)), and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) offices on military installations, service members can typically get their full tax refund straight from the IRS within 10 days of filing. They should not have to resort to a tax refund loan.*



## Free Tax Filing with Military One Source

The Military OneSource Tax Program will begin on Monday, January 17, 2011. The program will provide free access to a customized version of the basic H&R Block at Home® electronic tax filing product. This customized product allows for free federal filing and free state filing (up to three states). In addition, free telephonic tax consultations are available to help with tax related issues.

**\*An Important Note:** Please do not create a user account on the public H&R Block Web site. You will incur a fee if you file using the public H&R Block Web site/product. If you create an account on the public H&R Block Web site, regardless of how you access the account in the future, the H&R Block system will view you as a public user (the system tags the account when it is created, according to the version of the product being used at that time).

**Please wait until Monday, January 17th, when the customized Military OneSource version is made available via a link on the Military OneSource Web site to create your account.**

[www.militaryonesource.com](http://www.militaryonesource.com)



# Emergency Preparedness



## POWER OUTAGE

Electrical power can go out for any number of reasons. An unexpected outage can have unforeseen consequences. Without electricity, you may experience a shortage of food and clean water, as well as extreme temperatures. You should be prepared to manage without power for an extended period of time.

All personnel should maintain a basic level of preparedness for all potential hazards.

You are encouraged to get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan and be informed about what might happen.

### *Rolling Blackouts*

- Rolling blackouts, or temporary power shortages, may happen from time to time when power companies turn the power off in certain areas to curb usage.
- Rolling blackouts occur during peak seasons and hours and of energy consumption, usually in the summer, 4–7 p.m.
- Power companies try to warn affected areas of planned rolling blackouts, but they cannot always do so.
- The power is usually out for only about an hour.

### *Summer Blackouts*

- Extreme heat is usually the cause of summer blackouts.
- Summer blackouts are dangerous because they eliminate the most effective ways to beat the heat: fans and air conditioning.
- In the absence of these means of keeping cool, make sure you stay hydrated.
- Take cold showers or baths to cool down.

### *How to Prepare for a Power Outage*

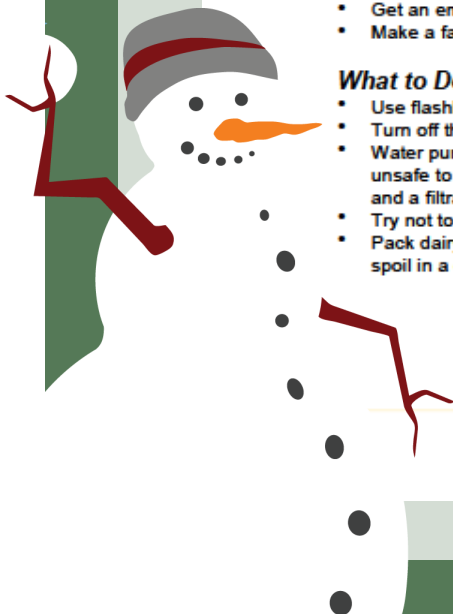
- Make sure you have flashlights and batteries including a spare battery or hand-crank charger for your cell phone.
- Make sure you have a battery-operated or hand-crank radio or TV.
- Stockpile plenty of nonperishable food and bottled water.
- Back up computer files regularly.
- Get an emergency supply kit.
- Make a family emergency plan.

### *What to Do If There Is a Power Outage*

- Use flashlights rather than candles for light to minimize risk of fire.
- Turn off the electrical equipment you were using when the power went out.
- Water purification systems may not be functioning when the power goes out, so water may be unsafe to use. Drink and use water that has been bottled, boiled or treated with iodine tablets and a filtration system.
- Try not to open the freezer or refrigerator too much. A full freezer should keep food for 48 hours.
- Pack dairy products, meat, fish, eggs, refrigerated medicines and other items that can quickly spoil in a cooler surrounded by ice to extend their usability.



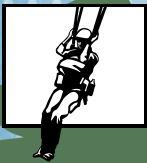


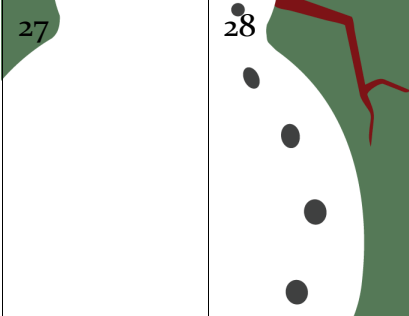


ARMY STRONG





# February



More information on Family Morale, Welfare, & Recreation Events/Activities can be found at  
[www.fortbraggmwr.com](http://www.fortbraggmwr.com).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 FRG Essentials 1800—2100 432-3742  AFTB Level I 396-2382	4	5
6	7	8 FRG Treasurer 0900—1100 FRG KeyCaller 1800—1900 432-3742	9	10	11	12 FRG Essentials FRG Treasurer FRG KeyCaller 0800—1500 AFTB Level I 396-2382
Joint Forces Exercise—Gun Devils will participate 12-14 February. Expect late nights & overnight.						
13 	14 	15 RDC/Cdrs Training 1300—1500 432-3742	16	17	18	19
12-14 February— Expect late nights & overnight.			BN Married Couples Retreat			
			AFTB Level III 396-2382			
Retreat			President's Day —Holiday			
20 	21	22 Gun Devil FRG Townhall 1830 (6:30 p.m.) 908-0074	23	24 Finance Rodeo Sport's USA 1000—1600 396-1883 643-2615	25	26
President's Day —Holiday			AFTB Instructor Training 396-2382			
27 	28 					

Dates subject to change.

# March

More information on Family Morale, Welfare, & Recreation Events/Activities can be found at

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 FRG Essentials 0900—1200 432-3742	4	5
		AFTB Level I (Spanish) 396-2382				
6	7	8 FRG Treasurer 1800—2000 FRG KeyCaller 0900—1000 432-3742	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 RDC/Cdrs Training 1300—1500 432-3742	16	17 	18	19
		AFTB Marathon—Level I, II, III 396-2382				
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 FRG Essentials FRG Treasurer FRG KeyCaller 0800—1500 432-3742
	BN Live Fire Exercise				Corp Training Holiday	
27	28	29	30	31		
Holiday						







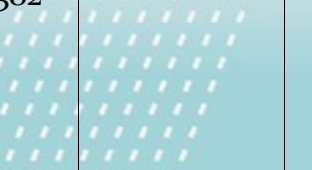


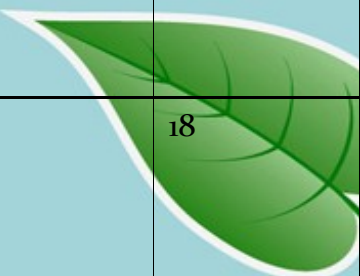
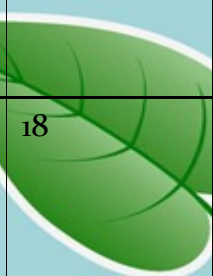

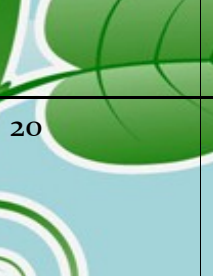
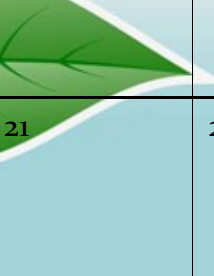

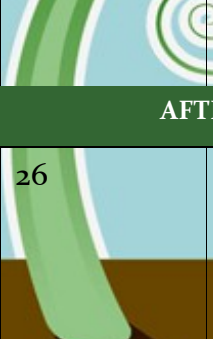
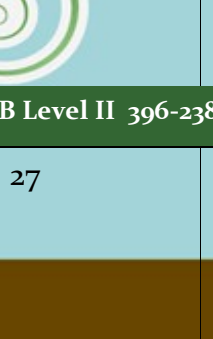
SECTION QUALIFICATIONS & LIVE FIRE—EXPECT LATE NIGHTS AND THE POTENTIAL FOR OVERNIGHTS.

Dates subject to change.



# April

More information on Family Morale, Welfare, & Recreation Events/Activities can be found at [www.fortbraggmwr.com](http://www.fortbraggmwr.com).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 	2 
3	4	5	6	7 AFTB Level I 396-2382	8 	9 
10	11	12 	13 	14 	15 	16 
17 	18 	19 	20 	21 	22	23
			AFTB Level II 396-2382		Training Holiday	
24 	25	26 	27 	28	29	30
Holiday						

Dates subject to change.



THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE GUN DEVIL HOLIDAY PARTY A HUGE SUCCESS!!!

